

AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION

Please replace page 3 of the application with the following amended page 3:

RELATED APPLICATION

This application is a continuation of my co-pending U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 10/027,571, filed December 19, 2001, for Air Sealable Container with Automatically Actuable Pressure Equalizing Valve and is also based on and assumes the filing date of my earlier provisional patent application Serial No. 60/340,510, filed December 6, 2001, for Air Sealable Container with Automatically Actuable Pressure Equalizing Valve.

Please replace the paragraph beginning at line 1 on page 15 with the following amended paragraph:

The present invention provides a container 30 having a container base 32 and a lid 34 hingedly mounted thereon by means of hinges (not shown). The carrying case is also provided with a handle 38 on the container base and locking latches 40 associated with the lid, and mounted therein through latch pins 41, as hereinafter described in more detail. When the lid is in a closed position, as shown in Figure 2 for example, an interior compartment 42 (seen in Figure 3) is air sealed. The base 32 may also be

provided with a peripheral upwardly struck protrusion 46 which extends into a peripheral groove 7 47 on the lid to further provide an effective locking seal as best shown in Figure 6.

Please replace the paragraph beginning at line 12 on page 15 with the following amended paragraph:

The container lid 34 is provided with two pairs of spaced apart ribs 44 ~~and 46~~ which extend from the front side of the container to the rear side thereof. These ribs are designed to not only provide further structural integrity, but they also serve as a means to mount each of the latches 40, also as best shown in Figures 2 and 3 of the drawings. Thus, it can be seen that one latch 40 on one side of the container is mounted on one pair of ribs 44 and the other latch 40 is mounted on the opposite pair of ribs 46.